

REMARKS

Claims 21-23 have been canceled without prejudice.

Claims 1, 2, 13-20, and 24-27 are in the application.

Claim 1 has been amended based on the disclosure at page 7, lines 20-25 and Examples 1(VI), 1(XIII), 1(XVII), 1(XVIII), 2(IV), 3(I), and 4(I).

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2, 13-23, and 25-26 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Gregorian et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,347,145. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Claim 1 has been amended to specify a level of divalent salt of from about 2% to about 90% by weight. Gregorian et al. does not teach or suggest a colour care composition comprising a dye fixing agent and from about 2% to about 90% by weight of a divalent salt. Applicants thus submit that Claims 1, 2, 13-20, and 25-26 are not anticipated by and are patentable over Gregorian et al. under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

Claims 1, 2, 13, 16-18, 21, and 25-27 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Masschelein et al., EP 811,680. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Claim 1 has been amended to specify a level of divalent salt of from about 2% to about 90% by weight. Masschelein et al. does not teach or suggest a colour care composition comprising a dye fixing agent and from about 2% to about 90% by weight of a divalent salt. Applicants thus submit that Claims 1, 2, 13, 16-18, and 25-27 are not anticipated by and are patentable over Masschelein et al. under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a).

Claims 1, 2, 13, 16-18, 21, and 25-27 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Baker et al., WO 97/46650. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Claim 1 has been amended to specify a level of divalent salt of from about 2% to about 90% by weight. Baker et al. does not teach or suggest a colour care composition comprising a dye fixing agent and from about 2% to about 90% by weight of a divalent salt. Applicants thus submit that Claims 1, 2, 13, 16-18, and 25-27 are not anticipated by and are patentable over Baker et al. under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103


Claims 14, 19, 20, and 22-24 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baker et al.. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. As discussed previously, Baker et al. does not teach or suggest a colour care composition comprising a dye fixing agent and from about 2% to about 90% by weight of a divalent salt. Applicants thus submit that Claims 14, 19, 20, and 24 are not anticipated by and are patentable over Baker et al. under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and accompanying remarks, reconsideration of the application, and allowance of all claims are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADEIN THE CLAIMS

Claims 21-23 have been canceled without prejudice.

Claim 1 has been amended as follows:

1. (Amended) A colour care composition comprising:
 - i)- a dye fixing agent, and
 - ii)- from about 2% to about 90% by weight of a divalent salt.